

FATE OF THE DOGS THAT GO OUT OF FASHION



The passing of the "hand-me-down."

By JANE DIXON.

WHAT becomes of the dogs that go out of fashion? Of course you know the fashions in dog are as changeable as the New York climate.

The dog which was considered smart in the days of mutton leg sleeves would never do nowadays. A stylish dog is quite as important to the followers of the fashions as a right up to the minute hat or the latest wrinkle in gowns.

"What does become of the dogs that go out of fashion?" I asked a dealer whose business it is to know where public opinion stands in this matter and whether it is trending.

"What becomes of the cast-off clothes of those who can afford to buy new ones before the old ones are worn out?" he asked by way of reply. "What becomes of the hundred dollar hat bought by a wealthy woman this week and thrown aside next week for another hundred dollar hat of a different shape and color?"

"She sells it at a bargain to some less fortunate woman, or she gives it to the cook or the laundress. She may send it to a clothes exchange to get what she can out of it."

"Much the same thing happens to the dogs that have gone out of fashion. The woman who wants a fashionable dog is thinking of the fashion, not of the dog. When style swerves the dog is sacrificed. If he is a lucky dog he falls into the hands of some kind master or mistress who likes him for himself alone, and straightway he finds himself in a sort of earthly dog paradise."

"What is fashion's last dictate in dogs?" I asked.

"It's a queer one," smiled the man who knows. "What women seem to be taking up now is the police dog."

"The police dog is a sensible style, at that. He is one of the most intelligent of his race. In appearance he resembles a wolf. In fact he was bred originally from the wolf. His coat is grayish, his muzzle long and graceful, his ears pointed and alert."

"He plays an important part in the preservation of law and order, for given a fair chance he seldom fails to nose out a culprit. He is entitled to wear a badge and brass buttons on his collar just like a regular policeman. For devotion and bravery you can't beat him."

Happy thought: Let wives whose husbands are wont to gambol single footed along the primrose pathways of

Canine Styles Changeable and the Castoffs Are Passed On Like Old Hats and Gowns

the pampered ones pass and dreamed of the days of the silver bell.

Who was this coming down the street? Pug's heart almost heaved from his quivering body. It was his mistress of the great mansion. Pug wagged his tightly curled tail furiously.

He yelped with joy. He strove to wriggle from the restraining arms of his new master—all in vain.

The object of his adoration passed. There was not so much as a fleeting glance for the wretched and "that queer animal" on the curbstone. Beneath her arms she carried a cinnamon brown ball of wool with two snow buttons for eyes.

At first Pug thought she had a similar ball of white wool across her shoulders, but on second thought he knew nothing alive would occupy such a perilous position. The cinnamon brown creature was rivalled by his mistress's summer furs. Pug thought of the King Charles spaniel and sighed. How soon he wondered, would he be sighing for the shimmering little Pekinese.

Turn back a few pages in the history of pets and you will come across the heroic figure of a St. Bernard, big and shaggy and good natured, hiding a heart of steel beneath his rough coat. When father bought a playmate for his precious one in those days he selected a combination pal and body-guard.

Children's story books were filled with tales of how the noble St. Bernard rescued snowbound travellers in the treacherous Alps. The romances of the St. Bernard are stranger and more thrilling than those in which James K. Hackett won the hearts of the matinee girls.

The fact that the St. Bernard romped and played and allowed the youngster to ride on his back did not deceive mother and father concerning the danger of his nature. They thought that should danger threaten he would be as fearless as a French soldier in the front trench.

To-day the St. Bernard is hopelessly out of it. Any father who would presume to bring home a breed so ancient would be frowned upon by his family and the surrounding neighborhood as hopelessly old fashioned. So far as fashion goes the St. Bernard is a hand me down.

An up to date father hurries home some fine evening carrying a mysterious something in the breast pocket of his coat. The something makes an odd, whimpering sound. The children shout with glee. Father has brought them a pet guinea pig or maybe a canary bird.

Then the funniest little face you ever saw appears above the edge of the pocket. It resembles a scared faun, in miniature, or a tabloid edition of a Jersey calf. It sneezes. It is all the poor pup can do to keep from shivering to death in the middle of August.

To what then does he owe his popularity? The answer is plain. There was a swerve in the fashion and he

happened to be standing in the way when it swerved.

Very few plain Janes are there in present day dogdom. As dogs grow more elaborate and more highly specialized so do their names. The name Sheep was formerly as frequent among dogs as was the name Dweem among children during a certain period in the making of American history.

When a dog arrived in the household the natural supposition was that its name was Sheep. Regardless of size, color or antecedents the name was Sheep just the same.

"Come to your mother, Mimi," curls the girl, of to-day. "Isn't she just the most beautiful baby? Dog 'his-ants'! Mercy, no! I fed her nothing but pasteurized milk and a bit of chicken broth, the lamb."

Sheep and Ponto and Pido and Penny have passed on with Hannah and Maria and Silas and Hiram. Instead

yawns. Father carefully takes it from his pocket, a grand total of a fraction over two pounds.

It is the shiveriest something imaginable, like a plate of disturbed gelatine, and it has long curved claws like a bird. Then father introduces

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we have Fluff and Babette and the Marquise and Kl Okoso. Anything that sounds intricate will do. What, think you, would happen if you sacrificed one of the current issues of Poms with the plebeian title of Pido? Why, the proud beauty would simply swoon up and die of shame.

"I am waiting for a fashion in dogs," declared a man whose heart is as big as his mind is broad. "I am waiting for the miscellaneous dog with the plebeian title of Pido? Why, the proud beauty would simply swoon up and die of shame."

"What is a miscellaneous dog? It is just plain 'dawg.' Its ancestors may have included a French poodle, a water spaniel, a wolf, a bloodhound and a long string of mutts. Its pedigree may be as checkered as the career of an East Side gunman. Its markings may be all wrong and its color like unto Joseph's coat."

"If it has gone through the melting pot and come out with a tail that is willing to wag and a fidelity that rings true to the mark it is my dog."

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BROOKLYN ADVERTISEMENTS.

BROOKLYN'S BEST KNOWN PIANO HOUSE

WHETHER You Own A Piano or NOT Our Service can be helpful.

TO BUY one of our Pianos or Player-pianos is to buy it because it is better, not because it is cheaper. It is cheaper, however, because we sell it at actual cost to manufacture, with only one fair business profit added, and the same fixed price to everyone.

TO RENT is to get an absolutely new piano because it